

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 134287
ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /016 R

66011

DRAFTED BY:S/S-O JSCHUMAKER

APPROVED BY:S/S-O SSTEINER

-----101309Z 018051 /46

P 101232Z JUN 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO CINCPAC

S E C R E T STATE 134287

FOLLOWING REPEAT TAIPEI ACTION SECSTATE JUNE 10.

QUOTE S E C R E T TAIPEI 3426

EXDIS

MILITARY TO HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

DEPARTMENT: PLEASE PASS TO CINCPAC HONOLULU HI FOR POLAD ONLY
FROM AMBASSADOR TAIPEI

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI, TW, US

SUBJECT: MILITARY PERSONNEL CHANGES

REF: (A) CINCPAC MESSAGE DTG 022224Z JUN 77, (B) CINCPAC MESSAGE
DTG 022226Z JUN 77, (C) CINCPAC MESSAGE DTG 080230Z JUN 77

1. REFERENCES A AND B REPORTED THE DOWNGRADING OF THE
COMUSTDC BILLET TO 08 AND THE BILLETS OF CHIEF OF STAFF,
USTDC, AND CHIEF, MAAG CHINA TO 06, ALL UPON ROTATION OF
THE INCUMBENT.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 134287

2. IN REFERENCE A, PLAD ASKED FOUR QUESTIONS ABOUT THE
PROSPECTIVE DOWNGRADING OF THE COMUSTDC AND CHIEF MAAG
POSITIONS IN TAIWAN. OUR RESPONSES ARE KEYED TO THESE
QUESTIONS.

3. QUESTIONS A AND B: IS GROC AWARE OF THE IMPENDING
DOWNGRADING OF COMUSTDC AND THE TDC CHIEF OF STAFF

POSITIONS THIS SUMMER? IS GROC AWARE THAT THE MAAG CHIEF, BGEN FORNEY, WILL BE REPLACED UPON DEPARTURE BY A COLONEL?

--- ANSWER: BOTH MAAG AND TDC HAVE INFORMALLY ADVISED THE GROC OF THE DOWNGRADING OF COMUSTDC, THE TDC CHIEF OF STAFF POSITION, AND THE FACT THAT MAAG CHIEF BRIGADIER GENERAL FORNEY WILL BE REPLACED UPON DEPARTURE BY A COLONEL. IN ADDITION, BY A LETTER DATED JUNE 8, 1977, DCM NOTIFIED MOFA ADMINISTRATIVE VICE MINISTER FRED CH'EN OF FOREGOING PLANS, REQUESTING THAT HE REGARD THEM AS CONFIDENTIAL UNTIL ANNOUNCED. THE COMUSTDC CHANGE OF COMMAND WILL PROBABLY TAKE PLACE IN LATE JULY AND VICE ADMIRAL SNYDER WILL PROBABLY LEAVE TAIWAN ON JULY 31. WE HOPE THAT GENERAL FORNEY WILL BE ABLE TO STAY ON THE JOB THROUGH THE END OF SEPTEMBER. NEITHER WE NOR THE GROC HAVE ANY INFORMATION, HOWEVER, ABOUT WHEN TDC CHIEF OF STAFF WILL BE DEPARTING OR THE NAME OF HIS REPLACEMENT? INCUMBENT HAS BEEN IN TAIWAN ONLY A LITTLE OVER ONE YEAR.

4. QUESTION C: WOULD POSSIBLE DEPARTURE OF BGEN FORNEY THIS YEAR, RATHER THAN NEXT, PRESENT ANY SPECIAL PUBLIC RELATIONS PROBLEM? WOULD "DOWNGRADING" OF MAAG POSITION BE MORE STRONGLY FELT IF IT WAS VIRTUALLY CONCURRENT WITH TDC CHANGE?

--- ANSWER: ALTHOUGH THE GROC WOULD NATURALLY PREFER THAT CHANGES IN THE RANKS OF OUR TOP MILITARY OFFICERS TAKE PLACE AS SLOWLY AS POSSIBLE, WE DO NOT ANTICIPATE
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 134287

THAT THE DEPARTURE OF BRIGADIER GENERAL FORNEY THIS YEAR WILL PRESENT ANY SERIOUS PUBLIC RELATIONS PROBLEM. THE GROC IS ALREADY AWARE OF PROBABLE CONGRESSIONAL ACTION TO REDUCE SEVERAL MAAG'S AROUND THE WORLD, INCLUDING THE ROC, TO AN OFFICE OF DEFENSE COOPERATION WITH SIX PEOPLE, AND THIS IN ITSELF, MAKES THE RETENTION OF BRIGADIER GENERAL FORNEY IMPOSSIBLE BEYOND SEPTEMBER 30, 1977, AS WE UNDERSTAND IT.

5. QUESTION D: ARE THERE ANY OTHER FOREIGN AFFAIRS ASPECTS OF THESE PENDING MILITARY CHANGES OF WHICH I MIGHT NOT BE AWARE?

--- ANSWER: THE GROC DOES NOT WELCOME THESE ACTIONS BY THE USG (I.E., DOWNGRADINGS PLUS SHIFT FROM MAAG TO ODC), SINCE THEY SUGGEST A WEAKENING OF OUR MILITARY TIES. WE DO NOT THINK, HOWEVER, THAT DOWNGRADING THE RANKS OF SENIOR US MILITARY REPRESENTATIVES IS, BY ITSELF, SERIOUSLY UPSETTING TO THE GROC, WHICH HAS BEEN PREPARED

BY US AND BY PRESS REPORTS, ETC., FOR THIS GENERAL
DOWNWARD TREND IN US MILITARY REPRESENTATION
HERE.

6. ALSO, PLEASE CONVEY MY PERSONAL THANKS TO ADMIRAL
WIESNER FOR KEEPING ME INFORMED OF DEVELOPMENTS
REGARDING TDC AND PERSONNEL ACTIONS OVER RECENT WEEKS.
UNGER UNQUOTE VANCE

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY PERSONNEL, PERSONNEL MOVEMENTS, POSITION AUTHORIZATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 10-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE134287
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: O JSCHUMAKER
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770207-0941
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770668/aaaachsw.tel
Line Count: 124
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 277be57e-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28-Oct-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2193004
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MILITARY PERSONNEL CHANGES
TAGS: MILI, TW, US
To: CINCPAC
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/277be57e-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009